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Amendment of the Madras Outports Landing and Shipping Fees Act.

*1550 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to question No. 433 answered on 9th October 1928, regarding the establishment of the Port Conservancy Board at Mangalore, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether a Bill has been drafted to amend the Madras Outports Landing and Shipping Fees Act, 1885 (III of 1885); and

(b) when it will be brought before the Council?

A.—(a) The preparation of the Bill is still under consideration.

(b) It is not possible to say when it will be brought before the Council.

Police

Appointment and dismissal of Police officers during 1928.

*1551 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Sub-Inspectors, Inspectors, Deputy Superintendents and District Superintendents of Police, both acting and permanent, appointed from 1st April 1928 up to date;

(b) the number of Sub-Inspectors, Inspectors, Deputy Superintendents who were dispensed with, removed, suspended, compulsorily retired and dismissed from 1st April 1928 up to date, and the reasons in each case; and

(c) the number of Mussalmans in each of the two cases, referred to in (a) and (b)?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Government are not in possession of the information; reports have been called for from the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police.

Arrest of Mr. Bulusu Sambamurthi.

*1552 Q.—Mr. K. KOTI REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Mr. Bulusu Sambamurthi was arrested by the Police at Bezwada Railway station without a warrant on 7th February 1929, and, if so, why; and

(b) why the Police or the Government have thought it fit to arrest him and try him for alleged seditious speeches delivered since January 1928?

A.—The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU:—"May I know whether the Government were aware of the intended arrest before it was actually made, and if so, when?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"We have no information, Sir."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU:—"May I know on whose initiative or under whose instructions were the proceedings launched?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Government did not issue any instructions."

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Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Is it not a fact that before a person is prosecuted under section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code, the previous sanction of the Local Government is necessary ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " As far as I know, Government did not give any sanction. We have called for a report."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know whether Members of Government read newspapers ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" This question does not arise, and hence it is inadmissible."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether the arrest was reported to the Government after it was made ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur .— " No, Sir."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" Are we to take it that Government are absolutely ignorant of this arrest ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " As I said, we have no information ; we have called for a report."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know why Mr. Bulusu Sambamurthi was arrested before the prosecution had any information against him ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Government say they have no information, and I do not know why this question should be put ? "

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" They may have information on the matter I asked ? "

Agency

Repairs to irrigation tanks in East Godavari Agency.

* 1553 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to question No. 668 answered on 26th November 1928, whether the report called from the Agent, East Godavari, has been received ; and what it is ?

A.—The report has not yet been received.

Assignment of lands

Assignment of disafforested lands in Pallalakuppam Reserve Forest.

* 1554 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : With reference to the answer to question No. 998 answered on 28th January 1929, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a list of Adi-Dravidas intended to be settled in Pallalakuppam Reserve Forest was prepared and sent to the Collector of North Arcot by the Rev. Blaess ;

(*b*) the names of places from which it is proposed to draft the settlers ;

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the Council table the letter of Rev. Blaess and all the subsequent correspondence between the Collector and himself ; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to allot half of the disafforested area to caste Hindus?